

April 26, 1960

Dr. Ernest C. Pollard  
Biophysics Department  
Box 2166  
Yale Station  
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Ernie:

I am writing to you in your capacity as spokesman for the Democrat's Advisory Council on Science.

I have been deeply distressed at the terrible blunder which our colleagues in the Congress have been making in cutting back appropriations for scientific work. I have in mind particularly the cut back of the NSF appropriation in the House and the cut off on appropriations for the large Stanford accelerator by the joint committee. No reasonable explanations for these asininites have been offered and it is particularly unfortunate that they are identifiable, on essentially party lines, with the Democratic membership. Anyhow this is rather baffling in contrast to past experience on what one had hoped to be a more liberal point of view on expenditures for science by the Democratic membership.

If your advisory committee has any weight at all with the party in Congress, I urge that you take every measure to rectify its attitude on this year's budget. How in the world could the Party become identified with this kind of point of view on science! I should mention as a particular point, too, that feelings in California may be quite considerable on the Stanford issue since there tends to be a considerable amount of regional sentiment that the west coast is left out of things by comparison with its economic and populational importance.

I would be amazed if your committee did not share these views but I hope to help to arouse you to some more vigorous action.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

POLLARD, E.C.